

A large green graphic of a tree with a white cloud at the top and a white trunk at the bottom. The text 'TOSHIBA CARBON ZERO SCHEME' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters across the middle of the tree's canopy.

TOSHIBA CARBON ZERO SCHEME

UN Sustainable Development Goals

- > The UN has 17 measurable Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Toshiba supports these goals. This report focuses on **SDG 2: Zero Hunger** and explains the impact of the Toshiba CarbonZero Scheme and its link to this goal.
- > SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) aims to end hunger and achieve universal food security by 2030. This includes promoting knowledge of nutrition and access to nutritional foods, and promoting sustainable agriculture techniques to enable communities to achieve strong yields despite the challenges presented by climate change.
- > The Toshiba CarbonZero Scheme has been supporting the Kenya Cook Stove Project since it first began. The efficient nature of the stove halves the amount of firewood needed, saving time and money on collecting firewood. In some areas people have to purchase permits to access local forests. The time saved means that that can focus on agriculture activities, thereby improving household food security.

FACTS

- > Undernourishment affects 1 in 9 people around the world, of whom the vast majority live in developing countries.
- > Globally, poor nutrition causes 45% of deaths in children under the age of 5, accounting for 3.1 million deaths per year. In Kenya, 3.83% of children do not reach the age of 5.
- > Agriculture is far and away the largest employer in the world, providing livelihoods for 40% of the world's population. In Kenya, over 80% of people are directly involved in agriculture, the majority of which is on a small-scale household level. This activity is becoming increasingly challenging in Kenya, with unpredictable rainfall and declining soil quality due to the loss of tree cover having a very negative impact on yields.

Kenyan Cook Stove Case Study

In Kenya, as in much of Africa, rural women face a double burden of having the main responsibility for ensuring their household's agricultural output whilst also caring for children and fulfilling other domestic tasks. This is the case for Mary Omer of Kadero village in Kisumu East district, Kenya. She has been the head of her household, solely responsible for raising her five children and putting food on the table since she lost her husband in 2001.

Mary previously cooked on a 3-stone open fire. She says: *"The wood consumption was so high and it was unbearable how much smoke I used to inhale. It also retained no heat so had to be relit every time I wanted to cook, and I would waste all my time gathering firewood."* However, all this has changed since she received her CarbonZero stove. She now uses less than half the amount of firewood she used to use and points out how the stove retains heat, meaning that her two grandchildren can have a hot meal when they return from school without the fire needing to be relit.

With the time that Mary has saved on gathering firewood, she has had time to join a self-help group in the village where women are taught sustainable agriculture techniques. Through this, she has learned how to achieve high yields from her maize, cassava and potato crops, so also has food at home to



put on the table for her children. She now also has time to tend to her cow which gives her five cups of milk every day. This income can be invested in books and uniform for her children's education, and provides cash that could be invested in food in the case of shortfalls in production.

Mary says: *"Things have changed in a very good way. As a mother, nothing makes you happier than knowing your kids will be well fed! That certainty gives me happiness in my heart."*

Toshiba's contribution to the UN Sustainable Development Goals

This case study shows how the project activities in Kenya contribute to SDG 2 in the following ways:

- The time previously spent gathering firewood can now be spent learning and practising sustainable agriculture techniques to increase yields for home consumption.
- There is also more time for other, more diverse income-generating activities. In Mary's case, this is tending to and milking her cow, which provides an important source of income, providing cash which can be used to buy food if home production decreases.
- Reducing the dependence on firewood removes a cause of deforestation, allowing forests to naturally regenerate, which increases soil quality and therefore improves agricultural yields.

For more information about the Toshiba Carbon Zero Scheme please visit our website:
www.toshibatec.eu/about/sustainability/carbon-zero/

In cooperation with



Toshiba Tec Germany Imaging Systems GmbH

Carl-Schurz-Str. 7
41460 Neuss
Germany

Website
www.toshibatec.eu